

OPINION 1884

Cyclodomorphus praealtus (Reptilia, Squamata): specific name first available from the intended original description by Shea, 1995

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Reptilia; Squamata; SCINCIDAE; lizards; *Cyclodomorphus praealtus*; Australia.

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary powers the specific name *praealtus* Osborne, 1994, as published in the binomen *Cyclodomorphus praealtus*, and all uses of the name prior to the publication of *Cyclodomorphus praealtus* Shea, 1995, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy.
- (2) The name *praealtus* Shea, 1995, as published in the binomen *Cyclodomorphus praealtus*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *praealtus* Osborne, 1994, as published in the binomen *Cyclodomorphus praealtus* and as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 2966

An application for the specific name of *Cyclodomorphus praealtus* to be ruled as first available from the intended original description by Shea (1995) was received from Dr W.S. Osborne (*University of Canberra, Belconnen, A.C.T., Australia*) and Dr K. Green (*Victorian Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Orbost, Victoria, Australia*) on 27 January 1995. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 52: 257–258 (September 1995). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 1996 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 52: 258. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 1997 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 22: Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Cocks, Dupuis, Eschmeyer, Heppell, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Papp, Patterson, Schuster, Song, Štys

Negative votes — 1: Kerzhner.

No votes were received from Cogger and Savage.

Ride was on leave of absence.

Kerzhner commented: 'Names which are made available before their intended publication, either by the same or by a different author, are frequent. There are usually associated additional problems, which may be taxonomic (an incomplete original description), nomenclatural (differing typification) and/or ethical ('stolen' authorship). However, these problems do not normally prevent stability and universality in the use of the names, and in my view the Commission should not be asked to rule in such cases. In this case the specific name of *Cyclodomorphus praealtus* should be attributed to Shea in Osborne (1994)'.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

praealtus, *Cyclodomorphus*, Osborne, 1994, in Green, K. & Osborne, W., *Wildlife of the Australian Snow-Country*, p. 104.

praealtus, *Cyclodomorphus*, Shea, 1995, *Records of the Australian Museum*, 47(1): 105.